



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**JOHN CARNEY**  
GOVERNOR

TATNALL BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BOULEVARD SOUTH  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

PHONE: 302-744-4101  
FAX: 302-739-2775

**REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION  
COVER LETTER  
MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY**

**September 17, 2021**

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20001

Through: Ms. MaryAnn Tierney  
FEMA Region III  
615 Chestnut Street  
One Independence Mall, Sixth Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.36, I request a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Delaware as a result of severe flooding during the period of September 1, 2021, through September 7, 2021. These events were not only historic in the context of Delaware weather and climate but also came at a time when the State's resources have been severely strained by the COVID-19 pandemic and our ongoing recovery efforts following Tropical Storm Isaias (DR-4566). The combination of these two factors not only exacerbated the storm's impacts on our communities but also has created a complex and novel recovery situation that has pushed the State's capabilities to their limits.

Tropical Depression Ida interacted with a frontal system, produced 100-year rainfall returns in the Brandywine Creek basin. Heavy rains in Pennsylvania fell into Brandywine Creek, and flooding runoff flowed into Delaware on September 2, 2021. Flooding from heavy rainfall caused considerable damage to residential and commercial structures and vehicles in the areas of the eastern portion of the City of Wilmington, as well as pockets along the Brandywine Creek from Talleyville, DE, through Edgemoor, DE. The Brandywine Creek in Wilmington rose to 23.14 feet Thursday morning, breaking its previous record of 20.43 feet in 2014. Flooding in Wilmington stretched between I-495 and Market Street, with the most significant impact in a fifteen to twenty-block area along the creek. In the early morning hours of September 2, water rescues were conducted in the Riverside neighborhood, with 200 people evacuated from the floodwaters.

Wilmington has a Combined Sewer Overflow system (CSO), and therefore, sewer backup and release of untreated sewage occurred in areas of the Riverside neighborhood. The flooding has displaced more than two hundred people and left; at the peak, 3,000 homes were without power. Delmarva Power shut off the electric services to 128 flooded houses, and gas services were shut off for 250 flooded homes.

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) continues to conduct initial damage assessments to gather data to understand the full impacts of Tropical Depression Ida and I have determined the disaster is of such severity and magnitude that an effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and supplementary federal assistance is necessary. I am specifically requesting a Major Disaster Declaration for “Flooding,” including all categories of work available under the Public Assistance program for New Castle County, the Individual Assistance program for New Castle County (including Crisis Counseling Program, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Disaster Legal Services, Disaster Case Management, Individuals and Households Program’s (IHP) Financial Housing Assistance, and Other Needs Assistance not limited to childcare, funeral and burial costs, critical needs assistance, and medical and dental expenses), and assistance from the Cora Brown Fund for New Castle County. The requested county has met the per capita threshold for supplementary federal assistance. The State reserves the right to add additional counties to this request. Finally, I request that all three (3) counties be considered for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

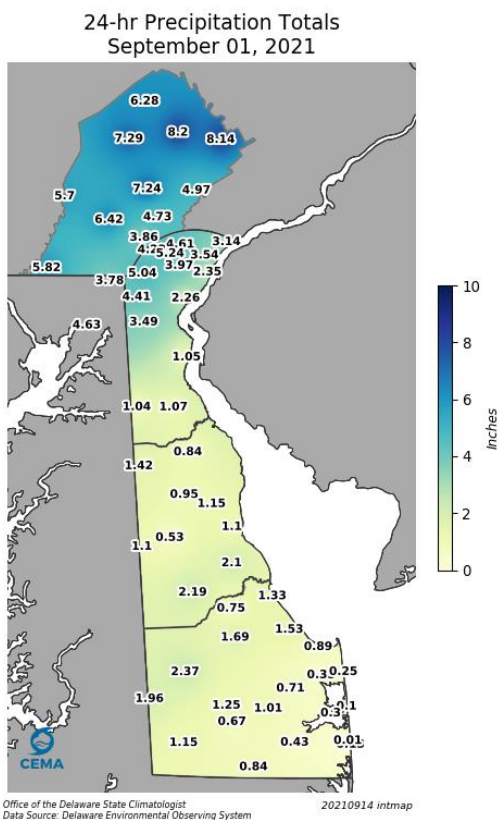
On September 6, 2021, I requested that a Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) be conducted within the State and local personnel and staff from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Small Business Administration (SBA). An assessment was conducted in the City of Wilmington and unincorporated areas of New Castle County. A detailed assessment was subsequently compiled with much of the damage being viewed by FEMA, State, and local officials both in person and through remote technology. The assessment revealed that approximately 48 properties had sustained major damage, 114 had sustained minor damage, and 71 others had been affected by flood waters. In addition to the individuals who have been impacted, approximately \$2.5 million in damage to public infrastructure, culturally significant private non-profits, and costs related to emergency protective measures have been identified.

## **REMNANTS OF TROPICAL STORM IDA**

Rainfall from the remnants of Hurricane Ida caused extensive flooding in Delaware on September 1-2, 2021. Ida made landfall on August 29, 2021, in Louisiana and gradually tracked to the north and east, eventually reaching the mid-Atlantic region by September 1, 2021. By the time it reached Delaware, the storm had weakened into a tropical depression. Simultaneously, Tropical Depression Ida’s arrival encountered a frontal boundary and upper-level system, which transitioned Ida's remnants into an extratropical low-pressure system. Even though Ida was no longer a tropical system by the time it reached Delaware, its tropical origin and circulation still contained copious amounts of moisture that led to enhanced rainfall for our region.

The watershed most affected by Ida's rainfall was the Brandywine Creek watershed. Several stations in the Delaware Environmental Observing System (DEOS) network saw 50-100 year, 24-

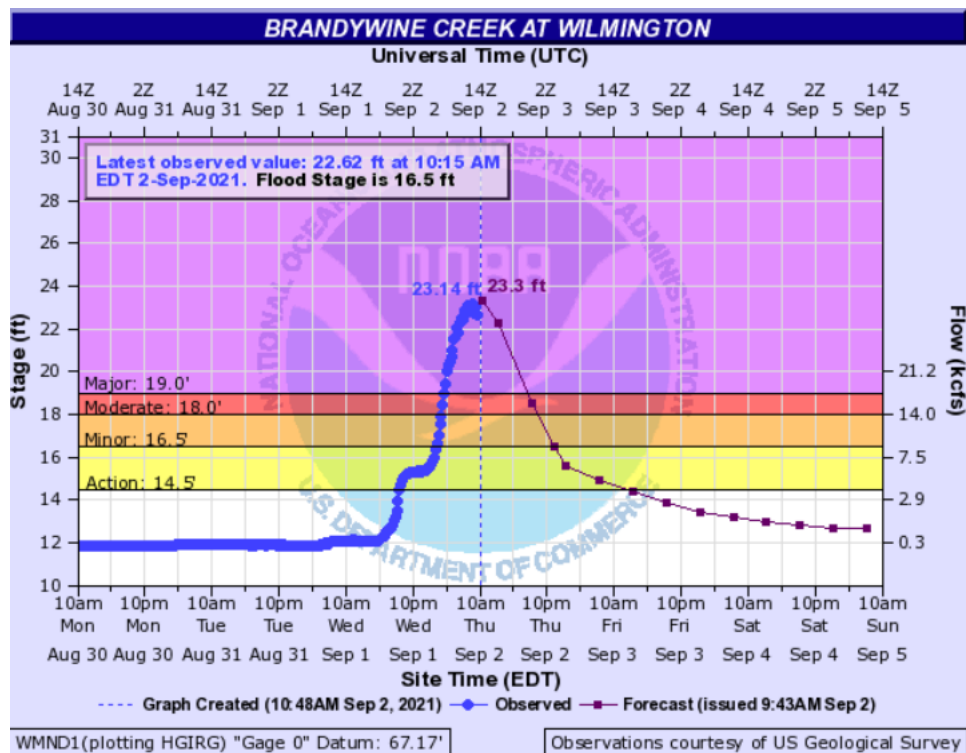
hour duration rainfall totals from this storm. This was particularly the case in portions of Chester County, PA, where the upper portions of the Brandywine Creek watershed are located. DEOS stations at Glenmoore (DSGM) and Marshallton (DWBD) saw 7.29 and 7.24 inches of rainfall, respectively, on September 1. Perhaps more impressive was that the majority of this rainfall fell in a 6 hour period on that day. Glenmoore measured 6.23 inches of rainfall between 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. EDT, while Marshallton received 6.05 inches between 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. EDT. Both of these rainfall amounts represent greater than a 200-year event and are very close to 500-year events for both locations. The figure below shows the 24-hour rainfall totals for all DEOS stations on September 1, including the aforementioned stations at Glenmoore and Marshallton.



Elsewhere in the basin, more weather stations recorded substantial rainfall. CoCoRaHS, a nationally recognized and National Weather Service supported volunteer observer program, provided several rainfall reports for the event. PA-CH-11, located 2.2 miles northeast of Unionville, PA, recorded 7.91 inches between the 1st and 2nd of September, while PA-CH-28 (4.1 miles NNE of Kennett Square, PA) recorded 7.26 inches. Farther down in the basin, the DEOS station in Greenville, DE (DGRN) measured 4.61 inches of rainfall on September 1st, and CoCoRaHS stations near Chadds Ford, PA (PA-CH-27) and Wilmington, DE (DE-NC-32) received 4.78 inches and 3.45 inches of rainfall, respectively for this event.

Intense rainfall of this nature will undoubtedly lead to substantial overland runoff, which eventually flows into the primary stream - Brandywine Creek. Given that there were several

locations in the watershed that observed nearly 500-year rainfall events, it is no surprise that Wilmington, located at the mouth of Brandywine Creek, saw historic flooding.



It is estimated that the flooding brought on by the remnants of Hurricane Ida affected as many as 275 property owners, both commercial and residential, throughout New Castle County. While considerable progress has been made to restore full utility service to about half of the affected properties there are still experiencing plumbing as well as electric and gas issues.

On September 1, 2021 the State Emergency Operation Center was activated and on September 2 Governor John C. Carney activated the Delaware National Guard to assist with response operations. On September 2, 2021, City of Wilmington Mayor Michael S. Purzycki issued a State of Emergency to coordinate response and recovery efforts following the heavy rainfall and flooding due to Tropical Depression Ida. A Disaster Recovery Center was opened on September 7, where representatives from various state, non-profit, and local agencies were able to provide resources for displaced residents.

## IMPACT TO THE STATE

### *State Fiscal Capability*

Delaware's first-quarter GDP for 2020 is \$76,085, a 5.6% decrease from 2019 and a 0.6% greater decrease than the National GDP percent change. The decrease in GDP is in part due to the economic impacts of the ongoing pandemic. The Delaware economy is highly dependent upon private and service industries. Restaurants are a driving force in Delaware's economy, providing

11% of the State's employment and contributing between \$1.47 to \$1.65 to the State's economy for every dollar spent at an establishment.

The most recent Total Taxable Resources (TTR) reported by the US Department of Treasury in 2018 for Delaware is 84.2 Billion dollars. Per capita, personal income is provided in the table below.

	Per capita personal income				Percent change from preceding period		
	Dollars			Rank in State	Percent change		Rank in State
	2016	2017	2018	2018	2017	2018	2018
<b>United States</b>	<b>49,870</b>	<b>51,885</b>	<b>54,446</b>	--	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	--
<b>Delaware</b>	<b>48,505</b>	<b>50,350</b>	<b>52,507</b>	--	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.3</b>	--
Kent	39,074	40,438	42,023	3	3.5	3.9	2
New Castle	51,859	54,198	56,745	1	4.5	4.7	1
Sussex	47,517	48,601	50,333	2	2.3	3.6	3

Delaware's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in July 2021 was 5.6%, down from 5.8% in June 2021. There were 27,200 unemployed Delawareans in July 2021 compared to 40,400 in July 2020. The US unemployment rate was 5.4% in July 2021, down from 5.9% in June 2021. In July 2020, the US unemployment rate was 10.2%, while Delaware's rate was 8.3%. In July 2021, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 451,200 up from 447,300 in June 2021. Since July 2020, Delaware's total nonfarm jobs have increased by a net gain of 20,000, a rise of 4.6%. Nationally, jobs during that period increased 5.3%.

Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations are based on Delaware Economic and Financial Advisory Council (DEFAC) revenue and expenditure estimates as of December 21, 2020. Governor Carney has recommended adjustments that will result in decreases of \$18.8 million to the Fiscal Year 2021 DEFAC revenue estimates and \$11.3 million to the Fiscal Year 2022 DEFAC revenue estimates. The recommended adjustments for pandemic and economic relief are as follows:

- A decrease of \$24.8 million by exempting the tax of Unemployment Insurance benefits for Calendar Year 2020.
- A decrease of \$4.5 million by altering the Earned Income Tax Credit and allowing recipients to choose the most beneficial outcome.
- A decrease of \$800.0 thousand by reducing Lottery revenue to offset the Standardbred and Thoroughbred Programs.

<b>June-21 DEFAC Meeting</b>	<b>FY 2020 A</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>				
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Revenue Category</b>	<b>Collections</b>	<b>DEFAC May-21</b>	<b>% B over A</b>	<b>DEFAC Jun-21</b>	<b>% D over A</b>	<b>\$ Increase D over B</b>
<b>Personal Income Tax</b>	<b>1,666.2</b>	<b>2,058.0</b>	<b>23.5%</b>	<b>2,119.1</b>	<b>27.2%</b>	<b>61.1</b>
Less: Refunds	(194.0)	(229.3)	18.2%	(231.8)	19.5%	(2.5)
<b>PIT Less Refunds</b>	<b>1,472.1</b>	<b>1,828.7</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	<b>1,887.3</b>	<b>28.2%</b>	<b>58.6</b>
Franchise Tax	957.7	1,092.0	14.0%	1,092.0	14.0%	0.0
Limited Partnerships & LLC's	345.1	379.6	10.0%	379.6	10.0%	0.0
Subtotal Franchise + LP/LLC	1,302.8	1,471.6	13.0%	1,471.6	13.0%	0.0
Less: Refunds	(12.0)	(12.0)	-0.3%	(12.0)	-0.3%	0.0
<b>Net Franchise + LP/LLC</b>	<b>1,290.7</b>	<b>1,459.6</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>1,459.6</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Business Entity Fees</b>	<b>127.0</b>	<b>142.5</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>142.5</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Uniform Commercial Code</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Unclaimed Property	554.0	554.0	0.0%	554.0	0.0%	0.0
Less: Refunds	(109.8)	(140.0)	27.5%	(115.0)	4.7%	25.0
<b>Unclaimed Prop Less Refunds</b>	<b>444.2</b>	<b>414.0</b>	<b>-6.8%</b>	<b>439.0</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>	<b>25.0</b>
<b>Gross Receipts Tax</b>	<b>253.8</b>	<b>283.6</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>272.5</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>(11.1)</b>
<b>Lottery</b>	<b>177.4</b>	<b>210.9</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>214.0</b>	<b>20.6%</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Corporation Income Tax	160.0	252.8	58.0%	252.8	58.0%	0.0
Less: Refunds	(43.5)	(50.0)	14.9%	(47.0)	8.0%	3.0
<b>CIT Less Refunds</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>202.8</b>	<b>74.1%</b>	<b>205.8</b>	<b>76.7%</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Realty Transfer Tax</b>	<b>166.2</b>	<b>235.8</b>	<b>41.9%</b>	<b>236.4</b>	<b>42.3%</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>Cigarette Taxes</b>	<b>119.2</b>	<b>111.2</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>	<b>113.2</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Bank Franchise Tax	80.9	72.7	-10.1%	75.1	-7.2%	2.4
Insurance Taxes and Fees	76.4	87.5	14.5%	99.0	29.6%	11.5
Hospital Board and Treatment	26.3	21.5	-18.3%	22.1	-16.0%	0.6
<b>Public Utility Tax</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Alcoholic Beverage Tax</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Dividends and Interest</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>45.0%</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>35.8%</b>	<b>(4.3)</b>
<b>Other Revenues</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>-12.6%</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>-12.1%</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Less: Other Refunds	(20.0)	(25.3)	26.5%	(25.0)	25.0%	0.3
<b>Net Receipts</b>	<b>4,525.8</b>	<b>5,259.5</b>	<b>16.2%</b>	<b>5,353.0</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>93.5</b>

### ***Resource Availability***

Since March 2020, State and local resources have been fully activated to combat the public health emergency that has been caused by the spread of COVID-19 throughout the State and nation. These resources have remained fully activated during this unprecedented flooding event. Due to the Delta Variant, the State and City are currently seeing a surge in COVID-19 and facing similar numbers to what the State experienced in the first quarter of 2021. The ongoing response to COVID-19 and recovery efforts for Tropical Storm Isaias continue to place a strain on resource availability as Delaware, and the residents of the City of Wilmington continue to struggle to recover from the impacts of Hurricane Ida.

### ***Uninsured Home and Personal Property Losses***

Throughout the course of the Joint PDA and based on the areas that were impacted and the data that is available, DEMA and FEMA used an agreed upon 10% insured percentage rate assumption.

<sup>1</sup> <https://myhealthycommunity.dhss.delaware.gov/locations/state>





### ***Disaster Impacted Populations Profile***

The State of Delaware continues to assist residents with an additional focus on providing support to our most vulnerable populations during these unprecedented times.

While the intensity of a disaster is important, of equal or greater importance is the presence of a population whose demographic or socioeconomic characteristics may place its members at a greater risk of harm. Poverty plays a critical role in increasing a population's vulnerability by limiting their ability to prepare for, mitigate, and respond to disasters. According to the United States Census Bureau 2018 American Community Survey, 12.5% are living in poverty. The census tract (30.02) hit hardest by the remnants of Ida also has the lowest mean household income, the highest percentage of households receiving food stamps/SNAP benefits, is one of 15 Opportunity Zones in New Castle County<sup>2</sup>, a designated Purpose Built Community<sup>3</sup>, has a CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) of .9144, and the highest unemployment rates for the population 16 years and over. Select economic characteristics of the Delawareans most directly impacted by the remnants of Ida are below.

<sup>2</sup> <https://opportunitydb.com/zones/10003003002/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://purposebuiltcommunities.org/our-network/wilmington-reach-riverside/>

## Median Household Income

**\$25K**

This Opportunity Zone has a **median household income** of approximately **\$25,000**, which is **64% lower** than the median household income for the state of Delaware of **\$70,000**.



## Poverty Rate

**48%**

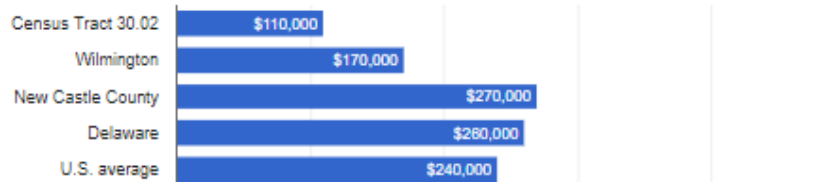
The percentage of households below the poverty line in this Opportunity Zone is **48%**, which is **37% higher** than the rate for the state of Delaware of **11%**.



## Median Home Value

**\$114K**

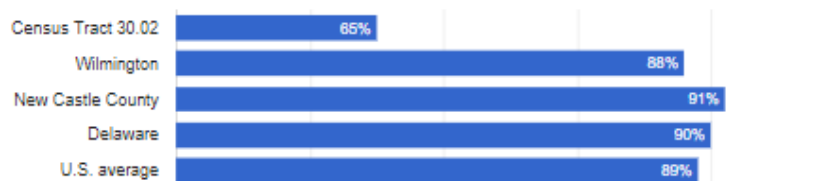
This Opportunity Zone has a **median home value** of approximately **\$110,000**, which is **58% lower** than the median home value for the state of Delaware of **\$260,000**.



## Education

**65%**

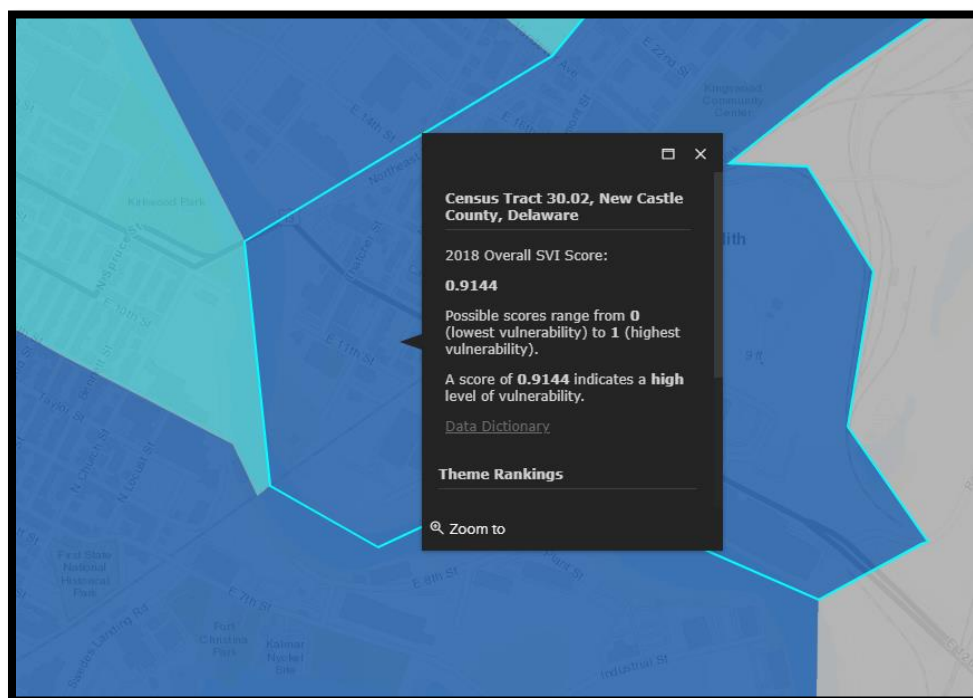
This Opportunity Zone has a **percentage of population with high school diploma** of approximately **65%**, which is **25% lower** than the rate for the state of Delaware of **90%**.





The above economic characteristics demonstrate the limited abilities of impacted residents to protect themselves and successfully recover from a community shock such as that which occurred on September 2. In addition to the above-referenced data, language abilities, poverty, and disability are characteristics factors that affect a person's vulnerability. According to the United States Census Bureau 2018 American Community Survey, 19.4% of Delaware residents are age 65 and older, 13.3% speak a language other than English at home, and 10.8% of Wilmington's residents have a disability, and 26% are currently experiencing poverty. Additionally, in the affected census tract, 83.7% are classified as a minority. Select demographic characteristics of Delaware and the City of Wilmington are displayed below.

Demographic Characteristics	State of Delaware	City of Wilmington, DE
Population	973,764	70,166
Under 18 years	20.9%	22.7%
65 years and over	19.4%	12.9%
Persons in poverty	11.3%	26.0%
Language other than English spoken at home	13.3%	10.2%
Percent with a disability	8.7%	10.8%



<https://svi.cdc.gov/map.html>

### ***Impact to Community Infrastructure***

Many pieces of community/cultural infrastructure along the Brandywine River suffered impacts and damages during this historic event. Brandywine Park, Howard Highschool, Stubbs Elementary, and Hagley Museum were among them.

Brandywine Park winds alongside the Brandywine River in the heart of the City of Wilmington and suffered extensive damage during the flooding brought on by the remnants of Ida. Established in 1886, it is the largest urban park in DE, and much like Central Park, owes its origin to the late 19th century “Natural Landscape Movement” of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead. The Park fulfills the need for public recreational space within a larger urban environment.

Brandywine Park was added to the National Historic Register in 1976. The 178-acre park features wooded trails, formal gardens, sculpture, architecture, a sports stadium, and a zoo. Stretching along a one-mile run of the Brandywine River, the park offers visitors outdoor recreation, picnic spots and cultural events.



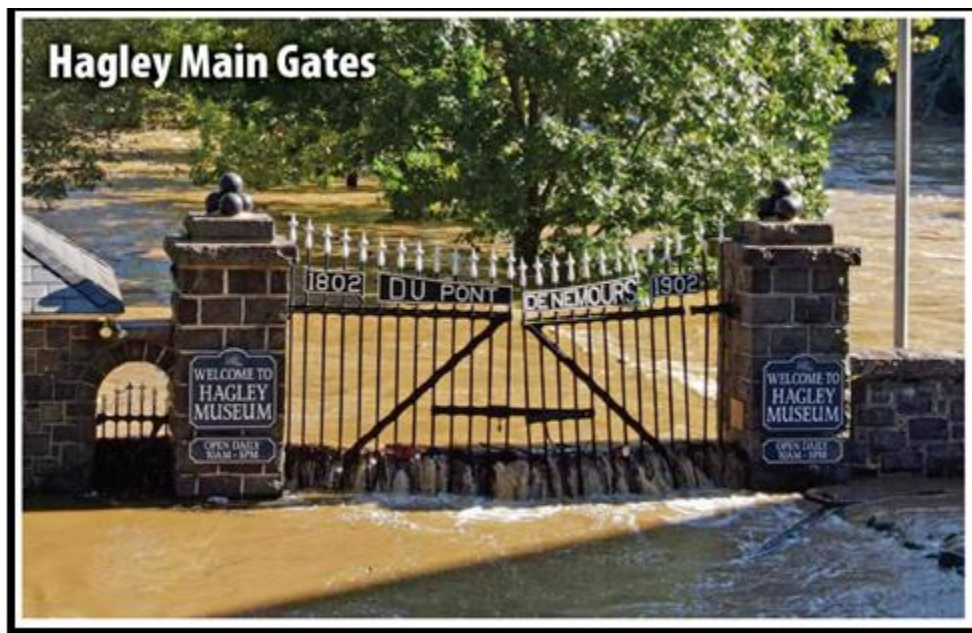
Hagley Museum and Library sits on a 235-acre site along the banks for the Brandywine Creek. The remnants of Hurricane Ida caused the Brandywine Creek to breach its banks, cresting at 23 feet above flood stage. The water spilled onto a substantial portion of the historic powder yard, including the mill race, mill buildings, wheelwright shop, visitor pathways, internal and public roadways, and basement levels of the historic visitor center (Henry Clay Mill) and tenant occupied building (Brecks Mill).

The water flooded the basement levels which housed the buildings mechanical equipment, electrical panels, and transformers, submerging them in approximately eight feet of water. Brecks Mill's external HVAC components, along with portions the walkways and underlying structure were carried downstream by flood waters.

Emergency costs include pumping water and sewage overflow from the buildings, and having the contaminants collected, treated, and properly disposed. Because the site has no electricity, emergency generators were rented to run the pumps, fans, and other equipment necessary to dry out the flooded areas, and to prevent the growth of mold and mildew. The second and third floors of Henry Clay Mill were recently renovated for a new exhibit. Standalone HVAC units are being rented and will be operated in those spaces to prevent damage to the exhibit, built-in casework, and other new furnishings in the upper floors.

Brecks Mill had a portion of its underlying structure washed out. Hagley is consulting with a structural engineer who has determined that the building will need to have a civil engineering study, a structural engineering study, and a geotechnical engineering study before the building can be occupied or return to operation.

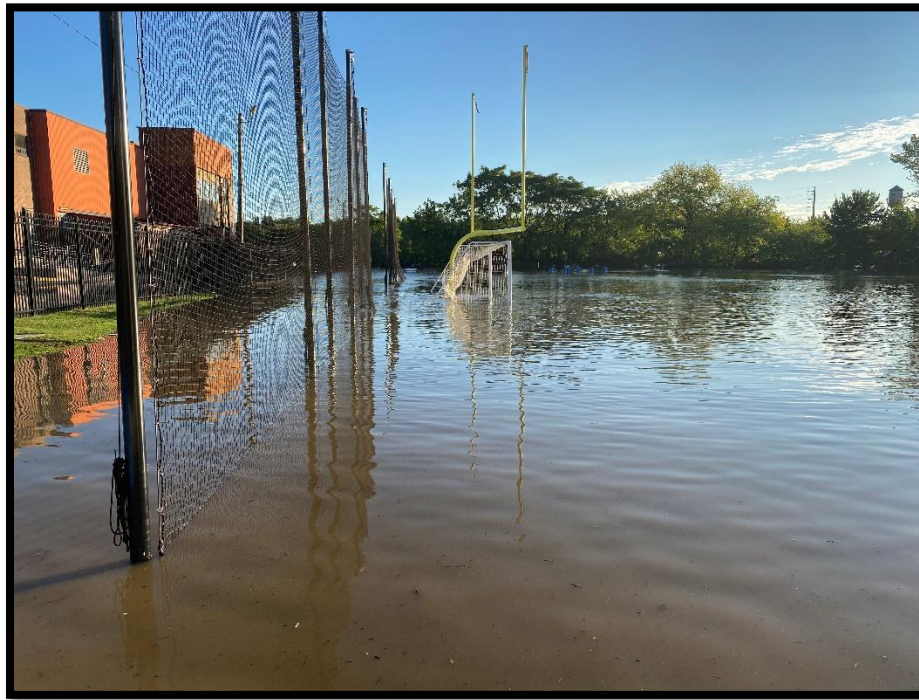
This is a preliminary assessment of the most immediate priorities. However, there are approximately 40 acres within the historic power yard that are unstable and need further assessment and damages are currently estimated at \$2 million. These areas remain closed to visitors as the damages are assessed and repaired over the weeks and months to follow.



Howard High School of Technology is a vocational-technical high school in Wilmington, Delaware and is the oldest of four high schools within the New Castle County Vocational-Technical School District and was founded in 1928. The Stubbs Early Education Center was founded in 1954, is a community school that is a part of the Christina School District, and serves



students and families alike throughout the year. Both sustained damage during the September 2 event.



## **STATE AND LOCAL RESPONSE**

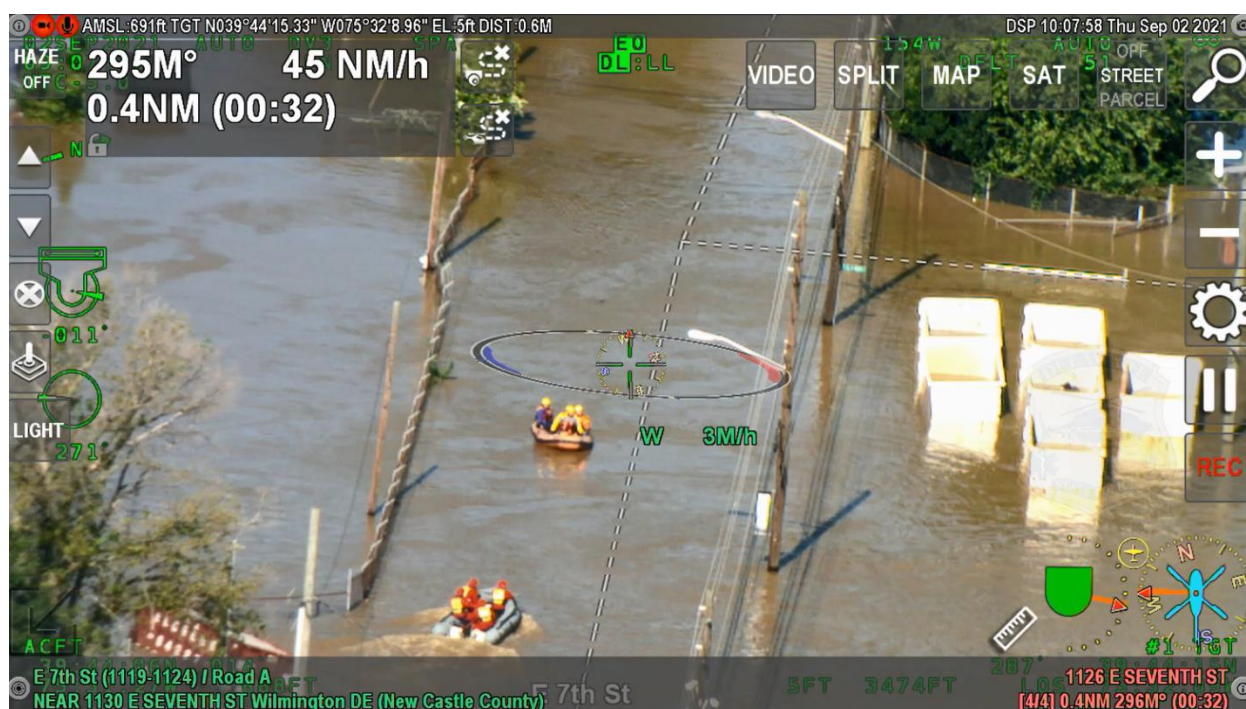
DEMA coordinated with the National Weather Service, State, and local jurisdictions to assess event forecasts and potential impacts of the storms. In addition, DEMA monitored the storms and assessed impacts, coordinated with State and local agencies affected by the events, disseminated the necessary information and guidance to the public and partner agencies, responded to media inquiries; mobilized and pre-staged resources to effectively respond to requests for assistance, and conducted site visits and damage assessments. Due to the ongoing pandemic, information was compiled virtually wherever possible and supported by the State's information technology services.

Leading up to the event, several actions were taken by State and local officials to mitigate and prepare for the impacts of the storm. The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), Delaware Department of Natural Resources (DNREC), and staff from New Castle County lowered the water levels at several dam sites including Mudmill, Masseys, Silver Lake, Trussum, and Griffiths Pond. Also, DNREC and the New Castle County Special Operations Team staged their small vessel fleet at four locations in mid-New Castle County in preparation for the storm and the Kent County Special Operations Team was brought up for mutual aid support the following day after over 200 swiftwater rescues were executed.

The remnants of Tropical Depression Ida passed through the Delaware region which began on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 1, and continued throughout the evening of that same day.

The major impact of the storm was felt in the City of Wilmington with residential and roadway flooding creating water damage to vehicles and residential structures.

On September 1 the State Emergency Operation Center was activated and on September 2 Governor John C. Carney activated the Delaware National Guard to assist with response operations. A State Emergency Management Liaison was deployed to the City of Wilmington and worked operationally out of the Wilmington Emergency Operation Center for two weeks following the event. On September 2, 2021, City of Wilmington Mayor Michael S. Purzycki issued a State of Emergency<sup>4</sup> to coordinate response and recovery efforts following the heavy rainfall and flooding due to Tropical Depression Ida. A Disaster Recovery Center was opened on September 7, where representatives from various state, non-profit, and local agencies were able to provide resources for displaced residents.



Over the Labor Day weekend (September 3 – September 6), DEMA worked with multiple local, State, and nonprofit partners to support the impacted residents and the City of Wilmington Office of Emergency Management. On Friday, September 3, DEMA conducted an Initial Damage Assessment (IDA), convened the Debris Management Group to address supporting waste removal, and conducted a housing conference call to address housing needs, as residents were without utilities and had sustained extensive structural damage. Through coordination with the City of Wilmington, a shelter was established on Thursday, September 2 and Friday September 3. Housing coordination was conducted to assist residents through the State and City housing authority's. The Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) provided a website for those seeking housing and disaster recovery related resources were provided using [www.DelawareHousingSearch.org](http://www.DelawareHousingSearch.org) or toll

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.wilmingtonde.gov/Home/Components/News/News/5640/225>



free 877-428-8844. Hotel accommodations were coordinated for displaced residents through the Labor Day weekend (provided a total of 19 rooms). On Saturday and Sunday, DHSS Human Services conducted social service welfare checks to Wilmingtons affected residents. Throughout the weekend City public works staff provided waste removal and DEMA coordinated through DSWA the opening of the Cherry Island landfill on Sunday and Monday to support operations. DEMA coordinated with Delmarva Power throughout the weekend on power restoration. The operational focus was on debris management, sheltering, housing, recovery, donations management, and volunteer coordination. The Salvation Army and American Red Cross (ARC) conducted feeding missions for the affected residents twice a day. DHSS established a call center and coordinated the build of a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) at the Reach Community Center in Wilmington nearby the affected area for Tuesday, September 7. DEMA also coordinated with the Milford Rehab Program support. A Disaster Recovery Center was opened on Tuesday, September 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Teen Warehouse, 1121 Thatcher Street, Wilmington. The DRC supported 375 residents representing 200 households. The center was staffed with 50 workers, 45 volunteers, and 21 agencies. Some of the agencies involved with provided information/assistance were DHSS, DPH, DOL, DART, DOI, SBA, COW, DE VOAD, ARC, and Salvation Army.



*NCCDE Swiftwater Rescue Assets on 14th and Heald St.*

Sheltering/Mass Care Operation and Short-term Housing: There are currently no shelters open. After the initial flood impacts of TD Ida, two reception centers were opened on. One of the reception center transitioned to a shelter at the Police Athletic League (PAL) Center of Wilmington, 3709 N. Market St, Wilmington, DE 19802 as requested by the City of Wilmington (Emergency Manager) to assist 35-40 people displaced by the flooding. DHSS under the Division

of State Service Centers (DSSC) has contacted over 5 dozen households/families and is currently sheltering residents who cannot return home at hotels in the area, and DSSC reports that 30 families have either returned home or are staying with family and a few are paying their own hotel stay.

Disaster Recovery Center: The Disaster Recovery Resource Fair hosted by the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), the City of Wilmington, and DEMA at The Warehouse had over 20 agencies and local partners were in attendance to ensure those affected by flooding had access to the resources they need.

Multiple additional resources have also been announced<sup>5</sup> to help Wilmington families with recovery efforts:

- DEMA announced a new Flood Cleanup Assistance program that will provide cleanup services for qualifying households through the Milford Housing Development Corporation.
- The City of Wilmington announced Crisis Cleanup Hotline (1-844-965-1386) to serve as a clearinghouse for all the muck out, debris removal, and mold remediation needs of those directly affected by the remnants of Hurricane Ida. Crisis Cleanup is the primary system used by the DE VOAD members currently deployed to the responses and as of September 16, there were 57 cases and Team Rubicon has assisted around one dozen homeowners with more planned.
- The WRK Group – The Teen Warehouse, REACH Riverside and Kingswood Community Center –is collecting and distributing food and other supplies to the community this week. Food and other donations continue through Friday, September 17, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, September 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The group is no longer accepting clothing donations, though monetary donations are still being accepted. Donate today at [reachriverside.org/donate](http://reachriverside.org/donate). ALL donations made to the WRK group during this time will be used to support flood recovery efforts. A list of needed food and household items is included at the end of this release.
- Delaware VOAD brings together organizations that work together organizations that work together to help people of Delaware affected by disasters. Currently, Delaware VOAD members, partners, and affiliates UMCOR, ACS, DE BEST, Brethren Disaster Ministries, Delaware State Office of Volunteerism and United Way of Delaware have partnered with local groups like The WRK Group and Senator Coons' Office to conduct debris removal and clean-up days on September 9, 11, 16, and 18. On the 9 these groups joined Habitat for Humanity to assist residents, and on the 16 they've joined Team Rubicon to assist residents impacted by the flooding. On the 11 UMCOR brought a trailer of generators and dewatering devices and de-watered a handful of residences (following reports of many wet basements still).
- The City of Wilmington is providing funding to homeowners who are still experiencing problems with certain essential services, including:
  - Plumbing/mechanical work for the restoration of gas service

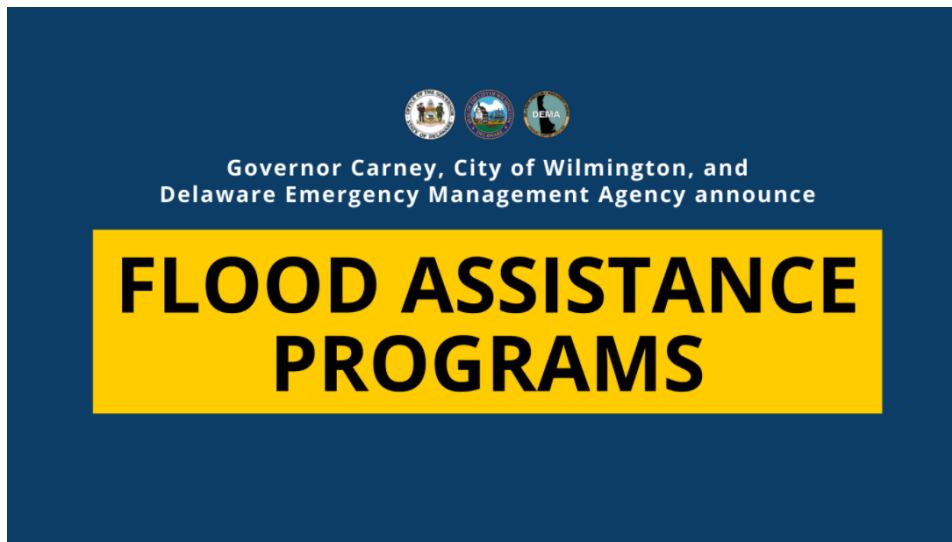
---

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.wilmingtonde.gov/Home/Components/News/News/5668/225>

- Electrical inspections
- Damage to HVAC systems, hot water heaters, and electrical panels
- These homeowners must contact the City by calling the 3-1-1 service line to make arrangements for needed funding. Homeowners who are still experiencing problems in the above areas may be eligible for assistance from the City.



<https://www.delawarepublic.org/post/your-guide-recovering-ida-flooding-wilmington-and-preparing-future-floods>



<https://news.delaware.gov/2021/09/08/governor-carney-city-of-wilmington-and-dema-announce-flood-assistance-programs/>

***Volunteer Activities:***

The Delaware VOAD members initially supported disaster survivors through sheltering (American Red Cross), feeding (Salvation Army and Operation BBQ), behavioral and emotional support (DE BEST), and debris removal (DE VOAD members/leaders, UMCOR, partnering with a local nonprofit in the affected neighborhood - REACH Riverside/Teen Warehouse). Team Rubicon

deployed for Operation Won't Back Down in Wilmington to conduct muck outs and debris removal starting on September 10 and the operations will go 14 days. ARC helped distribute clean-up kits after sheltering operations winded down. Baptist Convention of Maryland and Delaware (BCMD) is also planning to respond in the coming days to assist with mold remediation and potentially conduct muck-outs on properties where Team Rubicon cannot make it to. Habitat for Humanity is also on scene conducting muck outs and debris removal at residences built by habitat. UMCOR assisted several DE VOAD members and affiliates on Volunteer Work Days, most recently on 9/11 (National Day of Service) with dewatering of basements and debris removal - UMCOR brought a trailer of supplies including pumps and shop vacs. Salvation Army is now beginning to work with families and provide social services related assistance - as of 9/13 there were approximately 9 families being assisted and they anticipate several more. Food Bank of Delaware has gone door to door offering shelf stable foods to homes that have electricity and water returned and also left shelf stable foods at REACH Riverside/Teen Warehouse. REACH Riverside/Teen Warehouse also provided some donated items like clothing and childrens/baby products to disaster survivors during a DHSS led Disaster Recovery Center event held at their Teen Warehouse location. DHSS led the recovery center on Sept 7th and DEMA supported it in conjunction with the City of Wilmington, Office of the Governor, and many other state agencies were on site - including the Division of Small Businesses, SBA, Department of Insurance, DSAMH, and others. DE VOAD hosted a table at the recovery center day and worked to help get the word out of Crisis Cleanup and also registered and discussed unmet need with disaster survivors who visited their table. Many VOAD members are pulling from resources (equipment and trained volunteers) in neighboring states (Pennsylvania, Maryland). More specifics on particular volunteer service areas are outlined below:

- ◇ Feeding: The Salvation Army was notified of community feed request from Willie Patrick, Wilmington EOC, for 3 meals per day for 150 people. Salvation Army worked with their Philadelphia warehouse who was already working mass feeding operations in partnership with Operation BBQ relief and they added additional meals to aid Wilmington as quickly as possible. American Red Cross also provided meals initially after the shelter had closed. Salvation Army provided hot meals and water throughout the week of September 6<sup>th</sup> serving approximately 300 meals per day. Salvation Army canteen/hot meal services ended on 9/12/2021. Additionally, the Food Bank of Delaware, Inc. Has been providing shelf-stable food items through mobile means in the affected neighborhoods (including backpacks for children) and has provided shelf-stable food items to the Teen Warehouse pantry for residents to obtain as needed (as electric and water begin to be turned on in homes, allowing residents to be able to cook – note, Food Bank also provided majority pop-top foods so that cooking was not necessary).
- ◇ Muck Outs: Initially DE VOAD worked with American Red Cross to distribute cleanup kits and has since worked with members and affiliated on organizing several work days to remove debris from homes and work with UMCOR to de-water homes that still had standing water in basements and crawlspaces. The DE VOAD anticipates these work days to continue on Saturdays for the next several weeks.

9/9/2021

Total Volunteer Hours: 53.1

Total Number of Volunteers: 17

9/11/2021

Total Volunteer Hours: 147.15

Total Number of Volunteers: 42

**WWW.CRISISCLEANUP.ORG**



## HURRICANE IDA HOME CLEANUP HOTLINE

### CALL: 844-965-1386


If you need assistance with damage from Hurricane Ida, call the number above to ask for help. We will connect you with volunteers from local relief organizations, community groups and faith communities who may be able to assist with:

-  Cut fallen trees
-  Drywall, flooring & appliance removal
-  Tarping roofs
-  Mold mitigation

All services are free, but service is not guaranteed due to the overwhelming need. This hotline will remain open through Friday, October 1, 2021.

PLEASE NOTE: this hotline CANNOT assist with social services such as food, clothing, shelter, insurance, or questions about FEMA registration. Volunteers work free of charge and provide the tools and equipment necessary to complete the work.





Dashboard

Work

My Organization

Other Organizations

Reports

Training

Help

Hurricane Ida

View Case

Cases: 57 of 11,861

Search

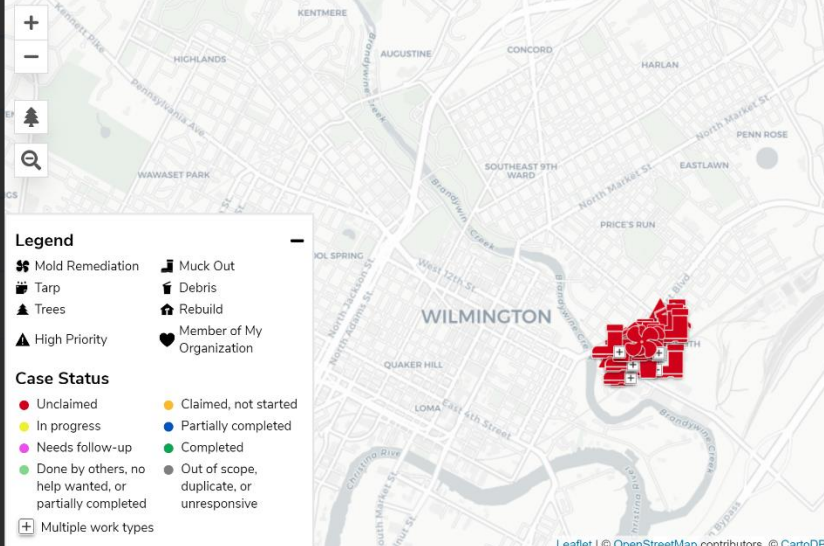
Most Vulnerable

Everyone

Layers

Filters

Download



*Crisis Cleanup:* Image is focused on the most vulnerable cases, which is majority of the cases in Crisis Cleanup.



- ◇ Philanthropic Support: The United Way of Delaware has established an Hurricane Ida relief fund - <https://donations.uwde.org/ida/>. Please note this fund is not yet actively disbursing funds as UWDE is working with partners to finalize the application and disbursement process.



- ◇ Mental/Emotional Health Services: Delaware Behavioral and Emotional Support Teams (DE BEST) were present for the Disaster Recovery Center and have since been partnering with DE VOAD on clean-up work days and partnering with Team Rubicon on work sites and surveys. Throughout these efforts, DE BEST has spoken to and/or provided resources to 40-50 disaster survivors and several responders.
- ◇ Social Services: The Salvation Army has registered around one dozen families and is providing a variety of social service programs to these families affected by flooding.

## **RECENT MULTIPLE DISASTERS**

Delaware is still actively involved in the response to and recovery from both COVID-19 (FEMA-4526-DR) and the lingering effects of Tropical Storm Isaias (FEMA-4566-DR). Both events still weigh heavily on the State's bandwidth and ability to recover from further stressors. As of September 14, 2021, Delaware has confirmed 125,549 positive cases and has had 1,900 individuals tragically pass away as a result of COVID-19. Additionally, there are currently 266 Delawareans hospitalized and the State is seeing a test positive rate of 9%; the highest since January 2021. The Delaware Emergency Management Agency and Delaware Division of Public Health continue to work heavily with the CDC, FEMA, State, and health care partners to respond and mitigate the threat the ongoing pandemic in Delaware.

## **STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

The State of Delaware's Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA and adopted by the State of Delaware in August of 2018. The Hazard Mitigation Plan for New Castle County has been recently approved pending adoption. This disaster provides an opportunity to implement hazard mitigation projects that will reduce the impact of future disaster of this nature, so I am therefore requesting Hazard Mitigation assistance statewide.

## SUMMARY

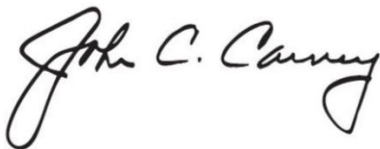
I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective recovery is beyond the capabilities of the State and local governments and that supplemental Federal assistance is necessary.

I am specifically requesting a Major Disaster Declaration for New Castle County for Individual Assistance (including Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Disaster Case Management, Crisis Counseling, the Cora Brown Fund, and Other Needs Assistance not limited to medical, dental, childcare, and funeral expenses), Public Assistance (all categories of work), assistance from the Small Business Administration, statewide Hazard Mitigation Program assistance, and any Direct Federal Assistance that is deemed appropriate over the course of the incident.

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5206, and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.36, I formally request that you declare a major disaster for the State of Delaware as a result of the impacts caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida on our state and its residents.

As the recovery from this incident progresses over the next several months, I reserve the right to amend this request to include additional FEMA programs as needed. I have designated Abel J. Schall as the Governor's Authorized Representative ("GAR"), Christopher Murtha as the Alternate GAR, and Joshua L. Kelly as the State Coordinating Officer ("SCO") for this request. Director Schall and Mr. Kelly will work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and will provide further information and justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John C. Carney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

John C. Carney  
Governor

## Enclosures

- A. OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-1
- B. Individual Assistance
- C. Public Assistance
- D. University of Delaware Center for Environmental Monitoring and Analysis Impact Report
- E. PDA Narrative Report
- F. IHP Cost Projection Workbook

## **ENCLOSURE A TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST**

Estimated Requirements for Individual Assistance  
under the Stafford Act

Enclose Individual Assistance Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment Cost Estimate Worksheets

<b>Individual Assistance Degree of Damage</b>					
<b>County</b>	<b>Destroyed</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Minor</b>	<b>Affected</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>New Castle</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>233</b>

## **ENCLOSURE B: PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

Estimated Stafford Act Requirements for Public Assistance

<b>County</b>	<b>Damages</b>
New Castle	\$ 2,500,000
Kent	\$ 0
Sussex	\$ 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,500,000</b>